

the partial enclosure caused by the passive, non-sealing engagement between the lips inhibiting moisture vapor produced from warm food disposed in the warming chamber from building up in the warming chamber, which prevents warm food disposed in the warming chamber from becoming soggy and allows enough moisture vapor to remain in the warming chamber for keeping warm food disposed in the warming chamber moist.

3. (Amended) Apparatus of claim 2, wherein the insulating structure comprises a [substantial] pouch formed of engaged superimposed layers of cloth and insulating material.

8. (Amended) Apparatus for keeping food warm and moist comprising: [insulating structure supporting and substantially engulfing a substantially water impermeable pouch having a warming chamber for accommodating food, the pouch and the insulating structure together providing generally opposing and substantially coextensive lips capable of being moved apart for forming an opening leading to the warming chamber and that are constructed and arranged to normally loosely associate with one another for partially enclosing the warming chamber for forming a partial vapor lock for the warming chamber]

insulating structure supporting and substantially engulfing a substantially water impermeable pouch having a warming chamber for accommodating food;

the pouch and the insulating structure together providing generally opposing and substantially coextensive lips;

a passive, non-sealing engagement between the lips;

the passive, non-sealing engagement between the lips causing a partial enclosure of the warming chamber;

the partial enclosure caused by the passive, non-sealing engagement between the lips inhibiting moisture vapor produced from warm food disposed in the warming chamber from building up in the warming chamber, which prevents warm food disposed in the

warming chamber from becoming soggy and allows enough  
moisture vapor to remain in the warming chamber for  
keeping warm food disposed in the warming chamber  
moist.

9. (Amended) Apparatus of claim 8, wherein the insulating structure comprises a [substantial] pouch formed of engaged superimposed layers of cloth and insulating material.

14. (Amended) Apparatus for storing and keeping food warm and moist comprising: [a soft and flexible insulated pouch having a substantially water impermeable warming chamber and a passive opening leading to the warming chamber]

a soft and flexible insulated pouch having a substantially water impermeable warming chamber and lips;

a non-sealing engagement between the lips causing a partial enclosure of the warming chamber;

the partial enclosure caused by the non-sealing engagement between the lips inhibiting moisture vapor produced from warm food disposed in the warming chamber from building up in the warming chamber, which prevents warm food disposed in the warming chamber from becoming soggy and allows enough moisture vapor to remain in the warming chamber for keeping warm food disposed in the warming chamber moist.

16. (Amended) Apparatus of claim 15, wherein the insulating structure comprises a [substantial] pouch formed of engaged superimposed layers of cloth and insulating material.

Clean copies of amended claims 1, 3, 8, 9, 14 and 16:

*Sub B1*  
1. Apparatus for keeping food warm and moist comprising:

a pouch that bounds an insulated and substantially water impermeable food warming chamber;

the pouch having opposing substantially coextensive lips;

a passive, non-sealing engagement between the lips;

*A2*  
the passive, non-sealing engagement between the lips causing a partial enclosure of the warming chamber;

the partial enclosure caused by the passive, non-sealing engagement between the lips inhibiting moisture vapor produced from warm food disposed in the warming chamber from building up in the warming chamber, which prevents warm food disposed in the warming chamber from becoming soggy and allows enough moisture vapor to remain in the warming chamber for keeping warm food disposed in the warming chamber moist.

*3*  
3. Apparatus of claim 2, wherein the insulating structure comprises a pouch formed of engaged superimposed layers of cloth and insulating material.

*Sub B2*  
8. Apparatus for keeping food warm and moist

comprising:

insulating structure supporting and substantially engulfing a substantially water impermeable pouch having a warming chamber for accommodating food;

the pouch and the insulating structure together providing generally opposing and substantially coextensive lips;

a passive, non-sealing engagement between the lips;

*a* the passive, non-sealing engagement between the lips causing a partial enclosure of the warming chamber;

the partial enclosure caused by the passive, non-sealing engagement between the lips inhibiting moisture vapor produced from warm food disposed in the warming chamber from building up in the warming chamber, which prevents warm food disposed in the warming chamber from becoming soggy and allows enough moisture vapor to remain in the warming chamber for keeping warm food disposed in the warming chamber moist.

9. Apparatus of claim 8, wherein the insulating structure comprises a pouch formed of engaged superimposed layers of cloth and insulating material.

14. Apparatus for storing and keeping food warm and moist comprising:

a soft and flexible insulated pouch having a substantially water impermeable warming chamber and lips;

*a 5* a non-sealing engagement between the lips causing a partial enclosure of the warming chamber;

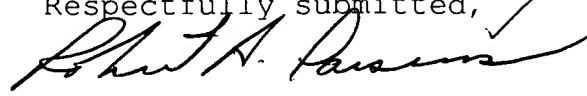
the partial enclosure caused by the non-sealing engagement between the lips inhibiting moisture vapor produced from warm food disposed in the warming chamber from building up in the warming chamber, which prevents warm food disposed in the warming chamber from becoming soggy and allows enough moisture vapor to remain in the warming chamber for keeping warm food disposed in the warming chamber moist.

*a 6* 16. Apparatus of claim 15, wherein the insulating structure comprises a pouch formed of engaged superimposed layers of cloth and insulating material.

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Examiner's thorough and thoughtful consideration of this application is sincerely appreciated. Should there be any remaining issues, Examiner is cordially invited to telephone the undersigned for a speedy resolution.

Respectfully submitted,



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